

CLAIMS

1. An electronic display apparatus comprising; parallel first and second surfaces divided into a plurality of pixels by orthogonal side walls, each said pixel being filled by coloured dielectric particles suspended in a non-conducting liquid, and electrodes formed on the interior of both the first and second surfaces, and wherein said display is operable in two modes: a first said mode wherein voltages of opposed signs are applied to electrodes on the first and second surfaces causing said particles to be aligned between the first surface electrodes and the second surface electrodes such that the colour of the particles does not significantly contribute to the colour of the pixel; and a second mode wherein voltages of opposed signs are applied to alternate electrodes on the first said surface and no voltage is applied to the electrodes on the second said surface such that the colour of the particles does determine the colour of the pixel.
2. A display as claimed in claim 1 wherein the electrodes on the first surface are generally elongate and extend along the sides of said pixel.
3. A display as claimed in claim 1 wherein the electrodes on the first surface overlie the electrodes on the second surface.
4. A display as claimed in claim 3 wherein the disposition of electrodes on the two surfaces are identical.

5. A display as claimed in claim 1 wherein the liquid is transparent and in the said first mode the colour of the pixel is determined by the colour of the second surface.

5

6. A display as claimed in claim 1 wherein the liquid is coloured and in the said first mode the colour of the pixel is determined by the colour of liquid.

7. A display as claimed in claim 1 wherein said first surface is an upper surface on which light is incident.

10

8. A display as claimed in claim 1 wherein said first surface is a bottom surface.

9. A display as claimed in claim 1 wherein means are provided for accelerating a transition from said first mode to said second mode by reversing the polarity of the opposed electrode pairs on the first and second surfaces.

15